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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Masakazu KANECHIKA, et al.

SERIAL NO.: 10/618,085

FILED: July 14, 2003

FOR: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND

SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits please amend the above-identified application as follows.

AMENDMENT

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

The Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.